

M/037/028

Mi Vida

orig Board file  
ce mine file  
Board  
Staff

3101 Sunset Dr., Moab, Utah 84532  
11/14/91

Ms. Dianne R. Nielson, Director  
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
355 West North Temple  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
84180-1203

RECEIVED

NOV 18 1991

DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING

Dear Ms. Nielson:

Regarding the mine reclamation at the Mi Vida mine site in San Juan County (Docket No. 91-045; Cause No. M/037/028) I should like the record to show that this mine has some of the greatest historical values in southeastern Utah. Although less than 50 years old its significance is such to justify its eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places.

Its impact on San Juan and Grand Counties and the nation is well known in mining and historical circles. The finding of the Mi Vida mine triggered off a modern-style uranium boom that rivaled the 1849 gold rush. The nation got material for "the bomb", Grand county got a modern city of Moab.

I understand that there are still buildings, mine equipment and a head-frame still on site. I urge that some of this be preserved for its historical value and be fenced and left as an historical monument to the uranium mining industry and its modern "father", Charles A. Steen. At a minimum the head-frame and an ore cart or two welded to steel rails to prevent theft, fenced and with an appropriate interpretive sign should be left. Perhaps the BLM or the San Juan County Historical Society could be prevailed upon to provide inspection and maintenance in the future. Opportunity strikes - please help preserve our past.

cc: State Historical Soc.  
BLM/Louthan

Sincerely,

Lloyd M. Pierson

Lloyd M. Pierson  
Member, Grand County Historic  
Preservation Commission